

thereof on the Evolution of Birds' Nests in General"; "On the Food of the Black-headed Gull"; "On the Position of the Ear in the Woodcock." All these were prepared by Mr. W. P. Pycraft.

We quite appreciate the value of this information, but venture to remark that this list would have been much more useful, "for convenience of reference," if the Journals in which these papers have been published had been exactly specified.

XXXVII.—Notices of recent Ornithological Publications.

[Continued from p. 560.]

81. 'Annals of Scottish Natural History.'

[The Annals of Scottish Natural History, a Quarterly Magazine with which is incorporated 'The Scottish Naturalist,' April and July, 1909.]

So long as Mr. Eagle Clarke continues his investigations on the migration of birds at Fair Isle, his papers will always be likely to form the main point of interest in our contemporary. His fourth report, in the April number, consists of observations during the year 1908, while he tells us that he has now succeeded in arranging for a permanent observer and a day to day record. George Stout, who has aided him so efficiently in the past, will be the first occupant of the post. The latest results are sufficiently remarkable, no less than 106 species having been noticed on the northward passage in spring, and 122 on the southward passage in autumn, but of these 89 were met with at both seasons. The greatest prize was an example of Savi's Warbler (*Locustella luscinioides*), the first recorded in Britain for over 50 years; next we have the second British (= Scottish) specimen of the Sub-alpine Warbler. Species new to Scotland are *Anthus cervinus*, *Hypolais icterina*, and *Accentor collaris*; those occurring for the second time are *Loxia bifasciata*, *Emberiza rustica*, and *Tringa temmincki*. Several specimens of *Sylvia nisoria* were identified, besides other uncommon species not

included in the paper, which only deals with those new to the fauna of the island. The correct identification of *Phylloscopus borea'is* is referred to both on p. 73 and p. 114.

Mr. Clarke also reports on an example of Brünnich's Guillemot picked up at Craigelaw Point, E. Lothian, in December 1908; and in the July number Mr. F. W. Smalley discusses at length the seasonal changes of plumage in the Great Northern Diver, which he illustrates by a plate shewing the various features at different seasons. In the "Zoological Notes" we are informed that Prof. J. Arthur Thomson is to direct an enquiry on migration at Aberdeen, the method being that of putting a ring on the bird's leg.

82. 'Annals of the Transvaal Museum.'

[Annals of the Transvaal Museum, vol. i. Pretoria. No. 1, April, 1908; No. 2, Aug. 1908; No. 3, Jan. 1909.]

The energetic officials of the Transvaal Museum at Pretoria have established a new zoological periodical, as will be seen by the heading, and have already issued three numbers of it. The first of these commences with "a short history" of the Museum prepared by Dr. J. W. H. Gunning, the Director, and illustrated by photographic plates of some of the cases and specimens. The Museum was first established in 1892, on the initiative of the State-Secretary of the (then) Republic, and has continued to prosper, in spite of some adverse circumstances, ever since. Dr. Gunning was appointed Director in 1896. The collection of birds (mostly admirably mounted by Mr. L. T. Griffin, now Taxidermist of the Auckland Museum, New Zealand, as the writer can testify from personal inspection) numbers upwards of 1,000 specimens besides some 3,700 skins, and well illustrates the Transvaal Avifauna.

In the first and second numbers of the new periodical there are no papers on birds. In the third number Dr. Gunning characterizes *Anthreptes reichenowii* (sp. nov.) from Beira, *Hemipteryx minuta* (sp. nov.) from the North-central Transvaal, and *Cossypha haagneri* (sp. nov.) from West

Pongoland, while Mr. Haagner gives descriptions of two new Flycatchers from Portuguese South-east Africa—which he names *Batis sheppardi* (sp. nov.) and *Sheppardia gunningi* (gen. et sp. nov.).

83. 'The Auk.'

[The Auk. A Quarterly Journal of Ornithology. Vol. xxvi. Nos. 1, 2 (January and April, 1909).]

In No. 1 Mr. C. W. Richmond provides an important paper, namely the first part of "A Reprint of the Ornithological Writings of C. S. Rafinesque." As this author's pamphlets and papers are of great rarity, Mr. Richmond is doing a great service to Ornithology in reproducing them. He gives us on this occasion the bird portion of the 'Analyse' (1815), viz. pp. 61-72 and the additional matter. It will be seen that no less than 21 generic names are considered "citable in nomenclature" by the author, though opinions may differ on this point.

Mr. R. M. Anderson gives us an account of the nesting of *Bombycilla garrula* and *Dendroica striata* at Fort Smith on the Slave River (pp. 10, 80); Mr. A. Brooks writes shortly on the Birds of Okanagan, British Columbia, and adds three species to the Canadian list, *Otus flammeola idahoensis*, *Aëronautes melanoleucos*, and *Oroscoptes montanus*; Mr. C. Sheldon furnishes a list of species observed on a hunting expedition to the Upper Toklat River, Alaska, of which *Heteractitis incana* is the most interesting; Mr. S. G. Jewett writes on some Birds of Baker Co., Oregon; Mr. G. Eifrig on the Winter Birds of New Ontario; Messrs. J. A. Weber and N. A. Wood on various Rails in New York City and Michigan; Mr. W. Palmer on "Instinctive Stillness in Birds" and Mr. Townshend on the House-Sparrow (pp. 13, 78). Mr. L. T. Cole cites an old letter of 1750 on the destruction of birds at Niagara Falls.

In No. 2 Dr. C. W. Townsend has an article on the position of birds' feet in flight, including many observations of his own; he comes to the conclusion that in full flight the feet are extended behind, except in the Passeres and

perhaps the Pici and Macrochires, but that this is not always the case in short flights, when it takes a little time to get the legs into position. From Mr. B. S. Bowdish's account of the reports from "Andubon Wardens" in protected areas we gather that public opinion in the U.S. is more favourable to bird-preservation than formerly, and that the numbers of birds are increasing in most places, despite a cold and stormy breeding-season, but that gunners are still troublesome in Florida and minks destructive in Maine. Mr. A. H. Howell writes on the summer birds of Northern Georgia, where he acted in connexion with the Biological Survey, and visited the districts round Tate, Ellejay, and Young Harris. The country is described and a list of 76 species furnished, with short notes. Mr. T. J. Cole discusses "tagging" as a means of studying the movements of birds, and gives a plan for securing more definite data by the use of aluminium bands on the tarsus and the proper keeping of records. He seems unaware of the work in this direction carried out at Rossitten.

Mr. M'Coy furnishes new records and important range-extensions of Colorado birds. Mr. S. S. Visser has a paper on those of Western South Dakota, similar to that of Mr. Howell, with 194 species, but shorter notes. Mr. W. Brewster reports an undoubted Barrow's Golden-eye from Massachusetts and writes at length on former records of that bird. He also discusses the nomenclature of the Black Ducks, and substitutes *A. rubripes tristis* for *A. obscura rubripes*. Lastly, Mr. J. A. Allen gives a most interesting account of the "Habitat groups" in the American Museum of Natural History, which must be read to be fully appreciated, while the four plates give a good idea of the excellence of the arrangement.

A report of the twenty-sixth stated meeting of the A. O. U. is added to the January Number.

84. 'The Avicultural Magazine.'

[Avicultural Magazine. The Journal of the Avicultural Society. New Series. Vol. vii. Nos. 6-10 (April-August, 1909).]

In these numbers perhaps we should first mention Mr. R. I. Pocock's account of the display of the cock Ostrich,

described with more particularity than hitherto, and illustrated by a plate (August). Such cases must always be interesting as throwing light on Darwin's theory of sexual selection.

We have also (in May and July) the continuation of Mr. D. Seth-Smith's notes on his journeyings in Australia; he visited Fern-tree Gully in search of Lyre-birds, where he observed also other interesting species; he afterwards proceeded to Melbourne and Sydney and inspected the Zoological Gardens at the latter place. In the April number Mr. A. Trevor-Battye has a valuable article on his captive Great Bustards, their habits, food, and so forth; in June Mr. B. R. Horsbrugh writes on the "Birds of a Bloemfontein Garden"; and in July Messrs. Seth-Smith and F. Finn begin a series of papers on aviculture at the Zoological Gardens, which Mr. Finn continues in August. From such papers aviculturists who are not members of the Zoological Society will be able to mark the progress at the Gardens and to note the nidification of various species. In July also Mr. J. L. Bonhote gives his experiences of three months' stay in winter at the Giza Zoological Gardens.

Articles are furnished on many separate species: by Messrs. H. D. Astley (*Turdus fuscescens* and *T. pallasi*, col. pl.); T. H. Newman (*Phlogœnas crinigera*, coloured and black pls.); G. A. Perreau and W. E. Teschemaker (*Passer cinnamomeus*); W. E. Teschemaker (*Sycalis pelzelni*); R. Phillipps (*Rubigula dispar*, with a description of the egg, and *Monticola saxatilis*); N. F. Cockell (*Perdicula asiatica*, bred in Calcutta); C. Ingram (*Uragus sanguinolentus*); C. B. Smith (*Lagopus lagopus*); A. G. Butler (*Erythrura prasina*); D. Dewar (*Terpsiphone paradisi*); and E. W. Harper (*Stoparola melanops*, col. pl.). Mr. Astley has also a paper on the breeding of *Porphyrocephalus spurius* and a hybrid Stanley-Rosella Parakeet; and Mr. Finn supplies some notes on Indian Birds.

85. 'The Condor.'

[The Condor, a Magazine of Western Ornithology. Vol. xi. Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 (California).]

'The Condor' does not always reach us quite regularly.

But we have had the pleasure of receiving safely the first four numbers for this year, in which we find much of interest to Ornithologists, though of course specially to such of them as reside in the Western United States. The illustrations in the text are numerous and in most cases excellent.

We cannot mention all the contributors to these numbers, but may call attention to Mr. Austen's observations on the birds of the little State of Morelos in Southern Mexico and to Mr. Hanna's account of the nesting of the White-throated Swift (*Aëronautes melanoleucus*) on Stover Mountain in California as worthy of study. Mr. Wright's account of his Ornithological Trips to the Coronados Islands is well illustrated. The review of the "Mammals and Birds of the Alexander Expedition to Alaska in 1907" seems to shew that the results of the expedition were of special interest. The specimens of birds obtained were 512 in number, among which are six described as representing new species or subspecies. We have not yet been so fortunate as to see this volume, which has been lately published by the University of California's new Museum of Vertebrate Zoology.

86. *Dearborn on Birds from British East Africa.*

[Catalogue of a Collection of Birds from British East Africa. By Ned Dearborn, Assistant Curator of Ornithology. Field Mus. of N. H. Publ. 135. Orn. Series, Vol. i. No. 4 (Chicago, 1909).]

Mr. Dearborn catalogues the collection brought home by the Field Museum of Chicago's last expedition to British East Africa (1905-7) under the direction of Mr. C. E. Akeley. A map shews the various localities where the specimens were obtained. Their number is not exactly stated, but they are referred by the author to 228 species, of which one (*Alethe akeleyæ* from Mount Kenya) is described as new. Most of the species are well known.

87. 'The Emu.'

[The Emu. A Quarterly Magazine to popularize the Study and Protection of Native Birds. Vol. viii. part 5; Vol. ix. part 1 (June, July, 1909).]

In the July part Mr. G. M. Mathews writes on the birds

of North-west Australia and takes for his first instalment those of the Wyndham district, which includes hilly ridges, plains, and salt marshes. He gives us a list of 72 species, and adds notes, largely on the colour of the soft parts. Mr. H. W. Ford has a paper on the birds of the Yackandandah Creek Valley, Victoria; and Mr. A. G. Campbell one on the genus *Pardalotus*, in which the difference of the breeding-places and nests of the spotted and streak-headed members of the group should be specially noticed. Mr. R. Hall furnishes notes on *Gymnorhina*, its habits, notes, and nest, all of which are of considerable interest. Mr. W. E. Weatherill describes as a new species *Pseudogerygone cantator*, near *P. fusca*, from the coast and rivers of S.E. Queensland, and its nest and eggs.

In "Stray Feathers" are to be found some interesting notes on Aboriginal Names, on Wood-Swallows as honey-eaters, on the Blue Wren nesting in ivy (pl.) and the Pilot-bird; while Mr. Mattingley writes on the need of a standard colour-chart, and the Editors give us welcome news of the restrictions placed on bird-traffic in the Territory of Papua.

For a frontispiece we have a picture of the feeding-ground of the Laughing Jackass, Cat-bird (*Ælurædus viridis*), and a Pitta (*Pitta strepitans*); the ground is covered with broken shells and among them is a stone used as an anvil.

The part issued in June 1909 is a special publication, entirely devoted to Mr. S. W. Jackson's recent trip to Northern Queensland in search of the nest and eggs of the Tooth-billed Bower-bird (*Scenopæetes denti-rostris*). How well he succeeded, in company with Mr. Frizelle, in observing the birds' habits and in finally discovering several nests with eggs and young, will be seen by reading his long article, and Mr. White, at whose instance he undertook the journey, must be thoroughly satisfied. A coloured plate is given of the birds and several photographs of their nests and play-grounds. Mr. Jackson spent most of his time in the Barron River Valley, among the Tinaroo and Atherton jungle-forests, where the Tooth-billed Bower-bird is not uncommon. It

makes a playground under a "lawyer-vine" and covers it with single leaves placed upside down, while it sits and sings near it; but finally deserts the place and builds a flimsy stick-nest to contain its two plain brownish eggs. The bird is a splendid mimic and is usually seen alone.

Space does not permit us to enter into further details of this remarkable expedition, but we must observe that nests and eggs of the Victoria Rifle-bird and Spotted Cat-bird were also secured (and photographed), besides those of many other rare species.

In a separate article Mr. Jackson describes as new the nests and eggs of the following species, from the Atherton district:—*Sphecotheres stalker* (pl.), *Oreocichla cuneata*, *Pæcilodryas albifacies* (pl.), *Acanthiza squamata*, and *Eopsaltria magnirostris*.

A nest of *Orthonyx spaldingi* is also depicted, as are the playground, nest and eggs of *Prionodura newtoniana*, discovered by Mr. G. Sharp, and the playground of *Chlamydochloa orientalis*.

88. Flower on the Zoological Gardens of Giza.

[Zoological Gardens, Giza, near Cairo. Report for the Year 1908, and List of Animals. By Stanley S. Flower, Director. Cairo, 1909.]

Capt. Flower's Report on the progress in 1908 of the Zoological Gardens at Giza (well known to all visitors to Cairo) is satisfactory, although not quite so favourable as that of the preceding year. The number of visitors in 1908 was 243,974, and the actual amount of receipts was only £42 less than in 1907. The Menagerie in November 1908 contained 1303 specimens belonging to 369 species.

The most noticeable new bird added to the List in 1908 was the Nuba Bustard (*Lissotis nuba*), of which fine species the Director himself brought back five specimens when he returned from his expedition to the Blue Nile in September 1908.

Captain Flower's List of the animals that have been

exhibited alive in the Gardens from the 6th of October, 1898, to the 5th of March, 1909, is also of much interest. The present Director took up his office in October 1898, and at once commenced a detailed list of the live-stock, which has been continued with great regularity ever since. Of the class "Birds," with which 'The Ibis' is alone concerned, examples of 366 species have been exhibited during the above-named period. The most notable of them is the Whale-headed Stork (*Balæniceps rex*), one of which has been nearly seven years at Giza and is still alive and well; but other rarities are in the List, such as *Balearica pavonina cecilia* and *Francolinus erkei*. The maximum ascertained length of life in captivity in the Gardens of an individual of each species, so far as recorded, is mentioned in the List. The nomenclature and arrangement adopted are nearly the same as those of the List of Animals in the Menagerie of the Zoological Society of London.

89. *Fox on the Birds of the Isle of Wight.*

[A Guide to the Natural History of the Isle of Wight. Edited by Frank Morey, F.L.S. Birds. By Reginald H. Fox. Isle of Wight & London, 1909. 8vo. Pp. i-xx, 1-560; 32 pls. and map.]

This book, of which we have lately received a copy, covers the whole of the Natural History of the Isle of Wight, and includes not only Zoology, but Geology, Botany, and even Meteorology as well. The zoological portion, moreover, treats of the lower as well as the higher groups of animals, and thus will be found useful to those who wish for a compendium of the subject within the limits of a single volume.

As regards the Birds, with which we are more particularly concerned, the list extends over thirty pages, and gives details of the occurrence of rare species, the comparative abundance of those that are more common, and occasional notes on the nests and eggs, with the addition of a few plates.

An article of this description must of necessity be largely compiled from various sources, but the author at times

relates his own experiences, and gives the latest information on such points as the increase of the Goldfinch and Tree-Sparrow, the present status of the Jay, Magpie, Raven, Wryneck, Hoopoe, Peregrine Falcon, and Kittiwake.

Mr. Fox acknowledges his great indebtedness to Messrs. Kelsall and Munn's work 'The Birds of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight,' with its much fuller treatment of Ornithology; and the present list may advantageously be placed side by side with that book for purposes of comparison.

90. *Grinnell's 'Bibliography of Californian Ornithology.'*

[Pacific Coast Avifauna. A Bibliography of California Ornithology. By Joseph Grinnell, Cooper Ornithological Club.]

For those who are studying the Western Avifauna of the Nearctic Region this will be a very useful publication. It contains a list all such books and papers as relate "either as a whole or in any part to the Birds of California." As will be seen, the list is long and extends over 140 pages. It is nicely got up and clearly printed, and does great credit to Mr. Grinnell (the Editor of 'The Condor'), who has composed it for the Cooper Ornithological Club.

91. *Harington on the Birds of Burma.*

[The Birds of Burma. By H. H. Harington, Major, Indian Army, M.B.O.U., F.Z.S. Rangoon, 1909. 134 pp. 8vo.]

This is a series of popular notes on the Birds of Burma, the majority of which have already appeared in the 'Rangoon Gazette.' As now put together they form a useful source of information for those who wish to make a general acquaintance with the bird-life of Burma and find Blanford (not Blandford as spelt by Major Harington) and Oates' 'Fauna of British India' too bulky to be carried about conveniently. Besides notices of the habits and localities frequented by the birds, short informal descriptions are added of most of

the species, which are sufficient to enable them to be determined in most cases.

At the end of the volume is given a complete list of the Burmese birds known to the author, with a table shewing their distribution in the different districts into which the country may be divided. Major Harington observes that the Northern Chin Hills are "absolutely unknown" and that the high peak of Saramati (12,000 feet) may probably have a Fauna of its own, so that there is still good work to be done in Burma by an enterprising Ornithologist.

92. Hartert's 'Birds of the Palæarctic Fauna.'*

[Die Vögel der paläarktischen Fauna. Von Dr. Ernst Hartert. Heft v. Berlin, 1909.]

The whole of the fifth part of the 'Birds of the Palæarctic Fauna' is devoted to the great Family Muscicapidæ, under which designation Dr. Hartert includes not only the Muscicapidæ proper, but also the Sylviidæ, Crateropodidæ, and Turdidæ of most authors. It is, no doubt, difficult to draw the lines between these four families, but we prefer the more familiar terms, although we admit that in many cases the task of distinguishing a Sylvian from a Thrush is severe.

The following ten new species and subspecies are described in this Part:—*Phylloscopus sibilatrix erlangeri* (Morocco); *Horeites flavolivacea intricatus* (China); *Sylvia undata toni* (Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia); *Prinia gracilis yemenensis* (Arabia); *Crateropus caudatus altirostris* (Mesopotamia); *Ianthocichla affinis oustaleti* (Yunnan); *Ianthocincla rufigularis assamensis* (Assam); *I. r. occidentalis* (N.W. Himalayas); *Trochalopteron lineatum grisescantior* (Western Himalayas); *T. lineatum gilgit* (Cashmir and Gilgit).

The true Thrushes will be treated in the next Part (VI.), which, we understand, will finish the first volume.

We may call attention to the change proposed by Dr. Hartert in the name of one of our familiar species. It is

* For notice of Heft iv. see 'Ibis,' 1907, p. 489.

maintained by some writers that the *Motacilla hortensis* of Gmelin, which has been generally supposed to be the Garden-Warbler (*Sylvia hortensis*) is not that species but the Orphean Warbler (*Sylvia orphea*). Dr. Hartert accordingly wishes to adopt the name "*Sylvia hortensis*" for the Orphean Warbler and to call the Garden-Warbler "*Sylvia borin*," it being, in his opinion, the *Motacilla borin* of Boddaert (ex Buffon, Pl. Enl. 579. fig. 2). It may be remarked, however, that this identification is uncertain, and that if the change were adopted "*Sylvia hortensis*" would become quite useless as a specific name, as it would not be possible to decide whether it was intended to designate the Garden-Warbler or the Orphean Warbler. To shift the name of one species on to another must always occasion serious inconvenience. It is far better, when necessary, to reject an uncertain name altogether.

93. '*The Irish Naturalist*.'

[The Irish Naturalist. A Monthly Journal of General Irish Natural History. January-September, 1909.]

In the January number Mr. R. J. Ussher has some notes on the occurrence of Black Redstarts in Co. Waterford; in March Mr. B. Jeffers gives us extracts from a Lighthouse diary; in June Mr. A. Williams notices the White Wagtail from Co. Dublin (*cf.* p. 183); in July Mr. Ussher writes on land-birds' nests found in holes on islands; in August Mr. C. B. Moffat discusses the use of domed nests, and Mr. Kohn records a Golden Oriole from Co. Cork; in September Prof. Patten furnishes an account of the Ornithology of The Skerries, Co. Dublin, a district apparently frequented by few but the most ordinary sea-birds.

94. *McGregor on Birds from Mindanao, Philippines.*

[A Collection of Birds from Northern Mindanao. By Richard C. McGregor. Philipp. Journ. Sc. iv. p. 67.]

In the last months of 1907 a collection of birds was made in Northern Mindanao by Mr. Andres Celestino, of the Philippine Bureau of Science. The 42 species to which they are referable are mostly of wide distribution, but six

of them had not been previously recorded from Mindanao, and the capture of *Chloropsis flavipennis* is especially noted, as there was an uncertainty about the occurrence of this species in the island.

95. *Madarász on Mongolian Birds.*

[Dr. J. v. Madarász. Contribution to the Mongolian Ornis, with Descriptions of some New Species. Ann. Mus. Nat. Hung. 1909, p. 175.]

Dr. v. Madarász gives an account of a collection of birds made in Transbaikalia by F. Teichmann and F. Weiske in April–July 1908. The specimens are referred to 44 species, amongst which 4 are described as new—*Tharrhaleus tetricus*, *Montifringilla cognata*, and *Pœcile tunkanensis*, from the Tunkan Mountains, and *Tetrastes orientalis*, an eastern form of *T. bonasia*. *Tharrhaleus tetricus* and *Montifringilla cognata* are figured (tab. 4).

96. *Madarász on certain Wild Geese.*

[Zur Naturgeschichte der Wildgänse, v. Dr. J. v. Madarász. Ann. Mus. Nat. Hung. 1909, p. 304.]

The author states that the Wild Goose called *Anser neglectus* by Sushkin visits the Steppe of Hortobagy in Hungary every autumn and remains until the following April. He describes the colour of the bill in summer and winter and figures it (tab. v. figs. 2, 3).

He also describes a supposed hybrid between *Anser fabalis* and *A. albifrons*, and gives a figure of its head.

97. *Mearns on New Birds from the Philippines.*

[Additions to the List of Philippine Birds, with Descriptions of New and Rare Species. By E. A. Mearns. Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus. xxxvi. p. 435 (1909.)]

In the seventh of his series of papers on Philippine Birds the author describes as new *Phabitron samarensis*, *Muscadivora palmasensis*, *Otus steerei*, *Prioniturus malindangensis*, *Yungipicus siasiensis*, *Rhinomyias ruficauda mindanensis*,

Cryptolopha malindangensis, *Pseudotharraleus malindangensis*, *Brachypteryx malindangensis*, *Hyloterpe apoensis basilanica*, *Zosterops goodfellowi malindangensis*, *Cryptostomus jugularis mindanensis*, *C. j. woodi*, *C. j. dinagatensis*, *Pyrrhula steerei* (from Mindanao, alt. 5750 ft.), *Dicurus balicasius mindorensis*, and *Chibia cagayanensis*. The addition of four known species to the Philippine List is recorded. Amongst these is a Phalarope (*Phalaropus hyperboreus*).

The discovery of a second Bullfinch in the Philippines is of great interest.

98. *Mearns on Birds from the Philippine Islands, Borneo, Guam, and Midway Island.*

[A List of Birds collected by Dr. Paul Bartsch in the Philippine Islands, Borneo, Guam, and Midway Island, with Descriptions of Three new Forms. By E. A. Mearns, Assistant in Zoology, U.S. National Museum. Proc. U.S. National Mus. xxxvi. p. 463 (1909).]

A complete list is given of the birds collected by Dr. Paul Bartsch at the above-named localities during the voyage of U.S. Steamer 'Albatross' (1907-8) to the Philippine Islands. Three forms are described as new to science—*Rhamphalcyon capensis smithi* and *Pycnonotus goiavier soluensis* from the Philippines, and *Collocalia bartsi* from Guam.

99. *Phillott on Persian Falconry.*

[The Baz-Nama-yi Nasiri. A Persian Treatise on Falconry. Translated by Lt.-Col. D. C. Phillott. London: B. Quaritch, 1908. Pp. i-xxiv, 1-195; 25 illustrations.]

This most interesting book consists of a translation of a work written in 1868, lithographed first at Teheran and afterwards at Bombay. As will be seen from the translator's Introduction, the author, Jaymur Mirza, was one of the nineteen sons of Husayn 'Ali Mirza, Governor of the Province of Fars, who was once offered the crown of Persia. He was in London in 1836, but returned to Teheran and died there in 1874. He was well known as an exceptional authority on Falconry.

After the Persian Introduction, the treatise begins by considering the "Yellow-eyed Birds-of-Prey"—Goshawks, Sparrow-Hawks, the Serpent-Eagle, the Eagle-Owl, the Lämmergeier, the Osprey, Harriers, and so forth. The second part treats of the "Dark-eyed Birds-of-Prey"—that is, the remaining species used for hawking. In this section is included much information of a curious character on the capture of the birds, their training and management, their food and diseases, their parasites and the like; the whole composing a treatise which is most interesting to read, and is full of that "Sage Advice" which is the heading of one of the chapters.

Many illustrations make the book still more attractive, some being facsimiles, some copies of curious Persian paintings, and some depicting the birds themselves.

100. *Revue Française d'Ornithologie.*

[*Revue Française d'Ornithologie. Scientifique et Pratique. Publiée par M. Louis Denise, 14 Rue Antoine-Boucher, Paris. Nos. 1-4.*]

The institution of a new Bird-Journal will interest all readers of 'The Ibis,' and we have much pleasure in calling attention to the first four numbers of the 'Revue Française d'Ornithologie,' which has been lately started. If we understand rightly, it is proposed to comprise in it articles on birds both of a scientific and of a practical character, and M. Menegaux, the Assistant for Ornithology at the National Museum in the Jardin des Plantes, is ready to receive such communications at 55 Rue de Buffon, Paris.

We will say a few words about the principal articles in the four numbers already issued.

In the first part (May 1909), after a short preface on the objects and plan of the new periodical, we find an essay by M. Raspail on the utility of the Rook (*Corvus frugilegus*), which we are told is seriously menaced in some parts of France, while M. Simon, a well-known authority on the Trochilidæ, commences a series of notes on that favourite group of birds.

In the second number (June 1909) M. Gounelle describes a new Humming-Bird from Colombia as *Polyerata cyaneotincta*, allied to *P. amabilis*, and M. Menegaux gives us a list (with remarks) of a collection of birds recently received from Cuba. No species are new, but many of them are rare (*Geotrygon chrysia*, *Todus multicolor*, &c.), and form valuable additions to the French National Collection.

In No. 3 (July 1909) Dr. Dubois discusses the relationships of the three nearly allied Asiatic Thrushes: *Turdus fuscatus*, *T. naumanni*, and *T. ruficollis*; and M. Paris writes notes on the birds of the Department of Côte-d'Or.

No. 4 (August 1909) is headed by an article on a new species of Tanager of the genus *Calliste* by Mr. C. E. Hellmayr (now of Munich): Mr. Hellmayr calls it *Calospiza palmeri*, but we see no reason why the prior generic name *Calliste* should be discarded. Five examples of this new and remarkable Tanager were obtained by Mr. M. G. Palmer in the district of Choco, Western Colombia. The same collector obtained examples of *Nemosia rosenbergi*, *Calliste johannæ*, *C. emiliæ*, and other rarities. In this number M. Menegaux records the occurrence of two examples of *Dendrocycna arcuata* at Aigues-Mortes, on the southern coast of France. This makes an addition to the Gallican Avifauna. Many other notes and notices will be found in the new Journal, to which we heartily wish success.

101. *Salvadori on a Species of Jay.*

[Nota intorno al *Garrulus melanocephalus*, Gené. T. Salvadori. Boll. Mus. Torino, No. 607, vol. xxiv.]

Count Salvadori has examined the typical specimens of Gené's *Garrulus melanocephalus* in the Museum of Turin, and has come to the conclusion that they are not identical with the *G. atricapillus* of Geoffr. St.-Hilaire, as is usually supposed. He points out the differences. The locality of Gené's *G. melanocephalus* is Baalbek in Syria, not Mount Libanus. The exact locality for *G. atricapillus* is not known.

102. *Salvadori on the Birds of the Duke of the Abruzzi's Ruwenzori Expedition.*

[Il Ruwenzori, vol. i. Relazioni Scientifici. Uccelli. T. Salvadori.]

In the Duke of the Abruzzi's famous expedition to Ruwenzori little attention was paid to Ornithology, and only 45 specimens of birds were brought home. These are referred by Count Salvadori to 36 species. Four of these species, believed to be new, have already been described*. Count Salvadori now gives us a list of the whole collection with the necessary remarks.

103. *Sharpe and Chubb on Bornean Birds.*

[Notes on a Collection of Birds from Sandakan, N.E. Borneo. By R. Bowdler Sharpe, LL.D., and Charles Chubb. *Ornis*, xiii. p. 137 (1909).]

The subject of this paper is a collection made by Mr. P. M. Graydon on or near the Lamey Estate on the Kinabatangan River, about one hundred miles from Sandakan in N.E. Borneo. The district is mostly covered by dense jungle and is not more than from 200 to 500 ft. above the sea-level.

After a list of the five principal papers already published on the birds of this part of Borneo, the examples of the 100 species represented in the collection are enumerated and discussed. They are mostly well-known Bornean forms. A few field-notes are added.

104. *Snethlage on new Amazonian Birds.*

[Novas especies de Aves amazonicas das collecções do Museu Goeldi. Pela Dr. Emilia Snethlage. *Bol. Mus. Goeldi*, v. p. 437 (1909).]

Dr. Emilia Snethlage, who is now, if we are correctly informed, the head of the Bird-department in the Goeldi Museum at Pará, describes 16 new species and subspecies of Amazonian Birds from specimens in that Museum:—*Thaluranía furcata intermedia* from the Rio Tocantins; *Pteroglossus*

* *Boll. Mus. Torino*, No. 542. Cf. 'Ibis,' 1907, p. 212.

reichenowi from the Rio Tocantins; *Chloronerpes paraensis* from Pará; *Thamnophilus huberi* from the Rio Tapajoz; *Dysithamnus capitalis squamosus* from the Tocantins; *Anaplops berlepschi* from the Tapajoz; *Grallaria macularia berlepschi* from the Tocantins; *Xiphorhynchus multostriatus* from the Tocantins; *Myiobius erythrurus hellmayri* from Pará; *Euscarthmus johannis* from the Rio Purus; *E. zosterops minor* from the Tocantins; *Euscarthmus griseipectus* from the Tocantins; *Setophaga pallida* from the Tocantins; *Pipra fasciata purusiana* from the R. Purus; *Pachysylvia muscipina* from the Tapajos; and *Sporophila leucoptera æquatorialis* from Mexiana.

We venture to remark that some of the characters which are given to separate the subspecies are rather finely drawn. But we much rejoice that the authorities of the Goeldi Museum are continuing to work out the products of the vast region of the Amazon and its affluents.

105. Stone on the Cuckoos of the Genus *Piaya*.

[A Review of the Genus *Piaya*, Lesson. By Witmer Stone. Pr. Ac. N. Sc. Philad. (1908).]

In re-arranging the Cuckoos in the great Collection of Birds at Philadelphia Mr. Stone was induced by the discovery of the neglected type of *Piaya macroura* to undertake a study of all the species of that genus. Two species of *Piaya* are unmistakable—*P. melanogastra* and *P. minuta* (called by Mr. Stone *P. rutila*). But *P. cayana* and its near allies form a very puzzling group. To enable him to understand them better Mr. Stone borrowed examples from other American Collections, and thus got together a series of 259 specimens, which gave him a good basis to work upon. The result is that *Piaya cayana*, according to him, is divisible into 11 representative subspecies, two of which (*P. c. cauca* and *P. c. boliviana*) are now described for the first time.

Mr. Stone wishes to change the name of *Piaya minuta* to

P. rutila; but we think this proposal is objectionable, as the exact type of Illiger's *Cuculus rutilus* cannot be certainly ascertained.

106. *Todd on a new Wood-Warbler from the Bahamas.*

[A new Warbler from the Bahama Islands. By W. E. Clyde Todd. Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, xxii. p. 171 (1909).]

Mr. Todd describes a new *Dendræca* from Abaco, Bahamas, which he proposes to name *D. flavescens*. It is most nearly allied to *D. dominica*, but distinguished by its longer bill and wholly yellow under parts.

107. *Winge's Report on the Birds of the Danish Lighthouses.*

[Fuglene ved de danske Fyr i 1908. 26de Aarsberetning om danske Fugle. Ved Herluf Winge. Særtr. af Vidensk. Meddel. Kbhvn. 1909.]

We are favoured by a copy of Dr. Winge's report on the birds obtained or observed at the Danish Lighthouses in 1908, being the 26th of this excellent series. In that year 1453 specimens of 73 species were forwarded to the Zoological Museum of Copenhagen from 38 Lighthouses, and other examples, making up the number to at least 2700, were noticed. The species most numerous met with in 1908 were *Alauda arvensis*, *Sturnus vulgaris*, *Regulus cristatus*, *Turdus iliacus*, *T. musicus*, and *Erithacus rubecula*. Of the last-named species, 188 examples were sent in, and at least 247 besides were taken.

Unusual visitors to Denmark in 1908 were *Alauda cristata* (March), *Pastor roseus* (May), *Parus cristatus* (July), *Ruticilla tithys* (Oct.), and *Muscicapa parva* (June). Many other interesting field-notes are given.

We venture to suggest to the Migration-Committee of the B. O. C. that similar lists of the birds captured at St. Catherine's or some of the other British Lighthouses would be useful for comparison.